

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
Lucas D. Barkley, et al.) Group: 2853
Serial No.: 10/736,183)
Filed: December 15, 2003)
Title: COMPOSITE PRINthead FIRE SIGNALS) Examiner: L. Nguyen

RESPONSE TO ELECTION REQUIREMENT

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the election requirement in the Office Action dated November 3, 2006, Applicants hereby elect with traverse the invention identified by the Examiner as Species I drawn to a method in an ink jet printer in which each fire signal is used to separately address a respective corresponding group of nozzles. Applicants identify claims 1, 7, 11-18, 20-24, and 26-32 as corresponding to Species I.

The reason for traverse is that each of independent claims 18 and 24 include a “decoder circuit” the receives the composite fire signal and “wherein said at least one composite fire signal represents a plurality of fire signals, and wherein each fire signal of the plurality of fire signals is used to separately address a respective corresponding group of the plurality of nozzles”. Thus, at least claims 18 and 24 embody Species I, and inherently embody Species II directed to a method in an ink jet printer in which a composite fire signal is decoded to provide a plurality of decoded fire signals. As such, it is respectfully submitted with respect to at least claims 18 and 24, the Examiner will necessarily need to consider both concepts identified as Species I and Species II, and as such the Examination of Species II (i.e., claims 2-6, 8-10, 19 and 25) in conjunction with Species I would not be unduly burdensome.